

Director of Communications

29 December 1955

Chief, Engineering Division, OC

X 352447

Monthly Report of Engineering Division Activities,  
16 November - 15 December 1955

1. The question of stocking parts peculiar for maintenance of RS-1 agent sets was resolved as follows: We will stock electronic parts peculiar for these sets but will not stock major mechanical assemblies such as tuning condensers, dial mechanisms, etc. The latter items will be repaired, if possible, or will be ordered [redacted] if a sufficient quantity of sets become inoperative through failure of these items.

2. Three Headquarters Engineering Division engineers were made available to SPD for training in communications equipment peculiar to the [redacted] Project. The individuals selected were [redacted] from the Plant Engineering Branch, [redacted] from Materiel Support Branch, and [redacted] from the Research and Development Branch. These engineers will depart for duty with the Project early in January 1956 for a period of roughly sixty days; they will then return to their regular assignments at Headquarters and will be available for Headquarters backup of Project [redacted] or for TOY assignments overseas to assist in installation of Project equipment.

3. A resume of the status of the 500 watt transmitter procurement was prepared for the files. In addition to the equipment mentioned therein, the [redacted] 500 watt transmitter has been received and inspected by the Laboratory and several interesting items of commercial manufacture have been uncovered, particularly the Collins 232-D transmitter which is a completely servo-tuned transmitter capable of being driven by the output of our stock PMO variable frequency oscillator. A recent check of MSB records indicates a total requirement for about 135 transmitters; however, before proceeding with any transmitter procurement, this figure must be reviewed in the light of the [redacted] outback, availability of RT-4 transmitters, and any other possible changes in current requirements.

4. A discussion was held with [redacted] and [redacted] of SPD to determine the feasibility of establishing at [redacted] a Quick Reaction Facility for ELINT Projects. A visit will be scheduled to the [redacted] Plant shortly after the first of January 1956 to inspect their facilities. Meanwhile, various contractual approaches to handling the type of contract necessary will be explored.

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5. On 9 December 1955, a session was held with [REDACTED] (OC-P) and [REDACTED] (OC-O&T) on the subject of procurement, stocking, and issuing of quartz crystals. A maximum stock level of crystals was set at 100,000 blanks comprised of roughly 200 blanks per 10 kilocycles in the most active segments of the stock range of 1 megacycle to 8.5 megacycles. Replacements would be ordered in whenever the level drops to 100 blanks in any 10kc. range. The 100,000 blank stock level includes stockpile requirements.

It was pointed out that evacuated crystals in HC-6 holders would be available in the frequency range 3 to 8.5 mcs. by December 1956. The supplier is processing lower frequency crystals first and the higher frequency crystals will not be available until the date mentioned. However, HC-6 mounted crystals will be available on special order from T&I from whatever crystals have been delivered by the contractor at any particular time. Crystals will continue to be issued in FT-243 holders until the present stock of about 53,000 blanks has been exhausted. OC-E mentioned that the RS-11 transmitter will require fundamental crystals in the range 8.5 to 12 mcs. Engineering will key crystal procurement to RS-11 production in coordination with OC-O&T to insure that crystals will be available for the RS-11 production units. Crystals to be stocked in the frequency range 8.5 to 12 mcs will be stocked in the same ratio as described above; that is, 200 crystals per 10kc. spread.

6. If there are no objections, the OC-E reporting period will be shifted to encompass a calendar month; the next report will cover the period 1-31 January 1956.

Attachments

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